

REMARKS

Reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims, in view of the following remarks, are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action dated May 9, 2006, the Examiner rejected claims 18-19 and 21-24, under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), as allegedly being anticipated by, or under U.S.C. §103(a), as allegedly being unpatentable over Uchida '051 (U.S. Patent No. 6,057,051).

By this Amendment, claims 18 and 21 have been amended to provide a clearer presentation of the claimed subject matter and claim 20 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants submits that no new matter has been introduced. Accordingly, claims 4-17 and 25-33 have been withdrawn from consideration, and claims 18-19 and 21-24 are currently presented for examination, of which claim 18 is the sole independent claim.

In so far as the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§102(b), 103(a) are still deemed relevant in view of the claim changes, Applicants respectfully traverses these rejections for the following reasons:

I. Rejections Under §§102(b), 103(a).

As indicated above, amended claim 18 is directed to an electronic apparatus and now positively recites, *inter alia*, that a fuel cell unit includes *a first storage unit which stores information indicating the remaining amount of fuel sensed by the sensing unit*, the first storage unit being accessible by the body. Claim 18 also positively recites that the body includes *a controller which includes a second storage unit and directly reads the information indicating the remaining amount of fuel sensed by the sensing unit from the first storage unit and stores the read information in the second storage unit*, at predetermined time intervals, as well as a display unit that displays the *remaining amount of fuel* according to the *information stored in the second storage unit of the controller*.

These features are amply supported by the embodiments disclosed throughout the written description. By way of example only, the disclosed embodiments provide that the fuel cell unit senses the remaining amount of fuel in a tank (as status information) and stores the status information in a storage unit (E2PROM 26) in the fuel cell unit. The body reads the status information from the storage unit in the fuel cell unit, stores the status information in a

storage unit (register 161) in the body, and displays the remaining amount of fuel in accordance with the status information stored in the storage unit in the body. In this manner, it is *not* necessary to establish synchronized communications between the fuel cell unit and the body in order to receive status information via a power supply management utility operated in the body of the electronic apparatus.

The Examiner asserted that Uchida '051 teaches that the calculated remaining operating time information is *sent* to the electronic apparatus through a connection terminal and that such *requesting* includes the amount of fuel remaining, operating times and operating conditions from the fuel cell unit. (See, Office Action: page 3). Applicants submit that this understanding of Uchida '051 actually contradicts the subject matter of claim 1 and that Uchida '051, fails to teach or suggest each and every element of claim 18, including the features identified above.

In particular, Uchida '051 merely discloses various methods for detecting an operating time of the fuel cell and provides that such methods include (i) a method of using a pressure sensor for detecting an amount of the hydrogen remaining in the hydrogen storage unit 5, (ii) a method of detecting an accumulated flow rate of the hydrogen, (iii) a method of integrating an amount of the generated electricity to find an amount of reaction of the hydrogen to thereby calculate an amount of the remaining hydrogen, and (iv) a method of detecting an amount of the formed water by the above-mentioned method to calculate an amount of consumption of the hydrogen. (See, Uchida '051: col. 7, lines 39-48).

Uchida '051 further discloses, that for note-type personal computers, estimated values of operation time lapses and remaining operating times are outputted through the equipment connection terminal 10 to be displayed on the equipment 1. (See, Uchida '051: col. 7, lines 48-54).

With this said, it is clear that Uchida '051 requires synchronized communications between the fuel cell unit and the body in order to receive and display status information. As such, there is nothing in Uchida '051 that remotely teaches or suggests *a first storage unit which stores information indicating the remaining amount of fuel sensed by the sensing unit, a second storage unit that directly reads the information indicating the remaining amount of fuel sensed by the sensing unit from the first storage unit and stores the read information in the second storage unit*, at predetermined time intervals and a display unit

that displays the remaining amount of fuel according to the information *stored in the second storage unit* of the controller, as required by claim 18. Indeed, it appears that the teachings of Uchida '051 effectively teach away from the limitations of claim 18.

For at least these reasons, Applicants submit that Uchida '051 is incapable of anticipating or rendering claim 18 unpatentable. As such, claim 18 is clearly patentable. In addition, because claims 19 and 21-24 depend from claim 18, claims 19 and 21-24 are patentable at least by virtue of dependency as well as for their additional recitations. Accordingly, the immediate withdrawal of the rejections of claims 18-19 and 21-24 under §102(b), §103(a) is respectfully requested.

II. Conclusion.

All matters having been addressed and in view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request the entry of this Amendment, the Examiner's reconsideration of this application, and the immediate allowance of all pending claims.

Applicant's Counsel remains ready to assist the Examiner in any way to facilitate and expedite the prosecution of this matter. If any point remains in issue in which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, please contact the Undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 03-3975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
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